

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The accompanying drawings, which are incorporated in and form a part of this specification, illustrate embodiments of the invention and, together with the description, serve to explain the principles of the invention:

5

FIGURE 1 is a flowchart diagram illustrating steps in a process for generating a pixel bar chart in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention.

FIGURE 2 is a flowchart diagram illustrating steps in a process for placement
10 of data for visualization of multidimensional data sets using multiple pixel bar charts in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention.

FIGURE 3a is a block diagram illustrating the partitioning of records into
15 groups accordingly in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention.

FIGURE 3b is a block diagram illustrating the sorting of a plurality of records within a group by a second dividing attribute and partitioning the records into sub-
groups accordingly in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention.

20 FIGURE 3c is a block diagram illustrating the arranging of a plurality of records within a sub-group by a first ordering attribute and a second ordering attribute in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention.

FIGURE 4 is a flowchart diagram illustrating steps in a process for pixel placement within a sub-group of a pixel bar chart in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention.

5

FIGURE 5 is an illustration of an exemplary sub-group 500 in accordance with one embodiment of the present invention.

FIGURE 5 is an illustration of an exemplary sub-group 500 in accordance with one embodiment of the present invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

In the following detailed description, for purposes of explanation, numerous specific details are set forth in order to provide a thorough understanding of the present invention. However, it will be apparent to one skilled in the art that the present invention may be practiced without these specific details. In other instances, well-known structures and devices are not described in detail in order to avoid obscuring aspects of the present invention.

Some portions of the detailed descriptions which follow are presented in terms of procedures, steps, logic blocks, processing, and other symbolic representations of operations on data bits within a computer memory. These descriptions and representations are the means used by those skilled in the data processing arts to most effectively convey the substance of their work to others skilled in the art. A procedure, computer executed step, logic block, process, etc., is here and generally conceived to be a self-consistent sequence of steps of instructions leading to a desired result. The steps are those requiring physical manipulations of data representing physical quantities to achieve tangible and useful results. It has proven convenient at times, principally for reasons of common usage, to refer to these signals as bits, values, elements, symbols, characters, terms, numbers or the like.

Portions of the present invention are comprised of computer-readable and computer executable instructions which reside, for example, in computer-usable media